THE

Great Prophecy

OF

King William's SUCCESS IN FLANDERS:

OR,

The Happy Fourth Year OF *HIS MAJESTY's* REIGN:

Giving several *Famous Predictions* of the Honour of *England*, in His Glorious Actions to be performed this present year, 1692.

Licensed and Entred according to Order.

Printed at *London*; And Re-Printed at *Edinburgh*, 1692.

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The Great Prophecy of King William's Success in Flanders, &c.

THE Great Changes and Revolutions which have happen'd in the Affairs of the World have been very often uſher'd in with ſome ſtrange Paſſages and Predictions. It would be tedious to recount all the prodigious Comets, Viſions, Apparitions and Prophecies, which have in all Ages given occaſion of Wonder and Amazement. This is moſt certain, never was there a more active World than now, and perhaps the mightieſt Wheels are now at work that the great Machine ever ſet a-moving. The long depending Tryal of skill between the vaſt Ambition of *France*, and the tugging World engaged againſt him, affords Mankind no mean Hopes and Fears, and no common Expectation. And if Portents and Predictions were ever the Forerunners of extraordinary Revolutions, we have ſome Reaſon to believe, that ſince the preſent Ferment of *Europe* is too violent to hold long at a ſtay, and ſome great Change muſt ſuddenly follow; if all thoſe ſpeaking Oracles are not quite ſilenced, there may be ſome Prophetick points-ing to this preſent Age. Though Prophecies, 'tis true, generally meet the ſame Treatment from the incredulous World, which *Noah*'s Prophetick Sermon of forty years, whilſt he was building the Ark, received from the inſenſible Race of mankind before the univerſal Deluge.

And as the generality of Prophecies are commonly ſo wrapt in Diſguiſe and Riddle, that is very difficult to give 'em an *Interpretation*; yet without vanity I here preſent the Reader with ſome few poſſibly as free from that Veil and Obſcurity as any he has met with, and perhaps thoſe that ſpeak as plainly to his Great Fourth Year of our preſent King *William* as can be expected.

The Firſt ſhall be that ancient one going under the Title of *Mr. Truſwell, the Recorder of Lincoln's Prophecy*; found the beſt part of a hundred Years ago in the Ruins of a Religious Houſe near *Lincoln*, and poſſibly firſt written as long before, the barbarous *Latin* in which it was penn'd giving ſufficient aſſurance of its Antiquity, being much about the Standart of the Learning of thoſe Times. And that the Reader may be confident 'tis no modern Novel or Fiction, it has been in print theſe forty Years, in a Treatiſe called *A Voice from Heaven*, printed *Anno* 1652. And conſequently as near as it reſembles the preſent 1692. can be no feigned Sham or Invention.

The PROPHECY.

Lilium manebit in meliori parte, & movebitur contra ſemen Leonis, Et ſtabit ex una parte inter ſpinas Regni ſui, cujus Regnum eſt Terra Luna, per totum Orbem timendum. Et veniet Filius hominis ferens feras in brachiis, cum multitudine Populi, tranſibit multas aquas, & veniet in terram Leonis, auxilium quærens à beſtiis terræ ſuæ. Veniet Aquila ex Oriente, aliis expanſis radiis filii Hominis. Et hoc anno Caſtra ſuper Thameſin peribunt, & magnus erit timor in toto Orbe, & in quo-

de parte terræ. Magna prælia erunt inter multos Reges, & in illo die erit Pugna Cruenta *in qua* Lilium *perdet coronam suam, de qua coronabitur filius hominis. Et quarto anno multa erunt pro fide certamina; caput mundi erit ad Terram. Filius hominis & Aquila elevabuntur: & tunc erit* Pax in Terris Universalis, *Et accipiet filius hominis mirabile signum. Et erit magna frugum abundantia. ibit in Terram Crucis.*

In ENGLISH.

The *Lilly* shall remain upon the better part, and he shall be moved against the Seed of the Lyon. And *he* shall stand on one part amongst the *Thorns* of his own *Kingdom*, whose Kingdom is the *Land of the Moon*, which is to be dreaded throughout the World. And there shall come *the Son of Man*, bearing the *Wild-beasts in his Arms*, with a multitude of People. He shall pass many *Waters*, and shall come to the Land of the *Lyon*, looking for help from the Beasts of his own *Countrey*. Then shall there come an *Eagle* out of the East, and his Wings spread with the Beams of the *Son of Man*. And in that year shall be destroyed *Castles* upon the *Thames*, and there shall be great fear over all the World, and in a part of the Land. There shall be great *Battles* among many Kings. *In* that *Day* shall be the *bloody Field*, in which the *Lilly* shall lose his *Crown*, wherewith the *Son of Man* shall be crowned: and in the fourth year many *Battles* shall be for the *Faith*. The *Head* of the World shall be brought to the Earth. And the *Son of Man* with the *Eagle* shall be exalted. And there shall be Universal Peace over all the World. And the *Son of Man* shall receive a wonderfull Sign. And there shall be great plenty of all Fruits of the Earth And he shall go into the Land of the Cross.

[*The Lilly shall remain upon the better part.*] By the *Lilly* is plainly meant *France*, whose Ensigns are the Lillies [*shall remain on the better part*] plainly signifies the long Success and Triumph that *France* has obtained so many Years together; the *better part* being interpreted the *Conquering side*, the Glory, Greatness and uninterrupted Prosperity of that encroaching Monarch having sufficiently hitherto claimed him the Title of *Conqueror*.

[*And he shall be moved against the seed of the Lyon.*] That is, He shall make War against the *United Provinces* and *Spanish Netherlands*, who are altogether called the *Belgick Lyon*, and give the *Lyon* for their Ensign, the very Figure of their Countrey in the Map being observed to resemble a *Lyon*. (*And he shall stand upon one part amongst the Thorns of his own Kingdom.*) His standing upon Thorns signifies the Uneasiness of his own Kingdom, the Subjects of *France*, from the Tyranny and Slavery they groan under, the long Ambition of so Aspiring a Prince laying no little Yoke and Oppression upon that miserable People.

Whose Kingdom is the Land of the Mon. (And the Land of the Moon must mean *France* still, so called from the aforesaid Uneasiness of the *French*, who only want some happy and favourable hour, (possibly under the umbrage of some kind Invasion) to shake off their long Yoke, and *change* their Fetters for Liberty; the *Moon* being always the Emblem of *change*, as indeed the whole Prophecy, (as you will find in the sequel) looks that way. (*Which it to be dreaded throughout the World.*) Here this dreaded Kingdom plainly points to

France,

France, whoſe Power and Growth has but too long and too truly been the Terrour of the World. (*And there ſhall come the Son of man, who carries the wild beaſts in his arms.*) This muſt intend the King and Kingdom of *England*, which is ſo diſtinguiſhing a Difference from all other Princes, that no Arms but thoſe of *England* pretend to wild Beaſts, a part of their Eſcutcheon. (*With a multitude of people.*) With a *multitude* indeed, as *Generaliſſimo* of the *Confederacy*, ſo many Nations and People fighting under his Standard.

['He ſhall paſſe many waters, and ſhall come to the Land of the Lyon, looking for help from the Beaſts of his own Country] The paſſing of many Waters can apply to nothing but our preſent Soveraign, his firſt Expedition for the Redemption of *England*, his Voyage to *Ireland*, his paſſing the *Boyne*, his ſucceſſe over the *Shanon*, his ſeveral Expeditions to *Flanders*, all manifeſtly poinring at no other Prince. *His coming to the Land of the Lyon*, his Embarquing for *Flanders*, looking for help from the Beaſts of his own Country, that is, expecting aſſiſtance from the States-General of the United Provinces, the native Country of our preſent Sovereign. The word [*Beaſts*] in the Language of Prophecy meaning [the *People*.] ['Then ſhall there come an Eagle out of the Eaſt, and his wings ſpread with the Beams of the Son of man.] Here is plainly decypher'd his Imperial Majeſty of *Germany*, whoſe Enſign is, the *Eagle diſplay'd*; and his Wings being being ſpread with the Beams of the Son of man, denotes the Confederacy between *England* and the Empire, the ſpreading the Imperial Wings by the Influence of the Engliſh Beams being a Prophecy truly ſo fulfilled in his *Britannick* Majeſty's vigorous Eſpuſing of the common Quarrel of Chriſtendom, and the Dependence the whole Confederacy has upon that Potent and Leading Hero and Champion of their Cauſe. ['And in this year ſhall be deſtroyed Caſtles upon the Thames, and there ſhall be great fear over all the World, and in a part of the Land.] Theſe Caſtles upon the Thames undoubtedly can ſignifie nothing but the Naval Preparations: thoſe floating Caſtles, the Fleets that ſhall be engaged in this Quarrel. The fear that ſhall be over the World, being no more than the univerſal Apprehenſions on all ſides, together with the Eyes and Concerns of all Nations being bent and intent upon the Fortune and Succeſſe of ſuch formidable Preparations. And that Fear that ſhall be *in a part of the Land*, may very reaſonably be applied to the preſent ſtate of *England*, where the Difference of Parties and Diviſions ſince the late Revolution, have poſſibly created ſome particular Fears in *England*, more and above thoſe of the whole World beſides. ſo highly (as be-fore ſaid) inſtructed in the Common Cauſe of Chriſtendom. ['There ſhall be great Battels amongſt many Kings.] This ſtill confirms the preſent Confederacy, in which all *Europe* ſtands engaged. ['In that day ſhall be the *Bloudy Field* in which the *Lilly* ſhall loſe his Crown where-with the Son of man ſhall be crowned.] Here we come to the concluding Stroke, that there ſhall be one more remarkable *Great Day*, being the *Defenſive Blow*, in which the *Lilly*, viz. *France*, ſhall be ſubdued and loſe her *Crown*, a Victory that ſhall be the particular Trophy of *England*, and the vanquiſhed Diadem of *France*, the Conqueror's Prize and Reward. Nay, the very next Paragraph aſſigns the very Year

in

in which this Defeat or Overthrow of *France* shall be accomplished; *viz.* ['And in the *fourth Year*, many Battels shall be for the Faith, and the Head of 'the World shall be brought to the Earth, and the Son of man and the Eagle 'shall be exalted.] Now what can this *Fourth Year* in this reasonable Interpretation direct but this very 1692. the Fourth Year of his Majesty's Reign, when the Son of man and the Eagle, *viz.* the King of *England* and the Emperor shall be so highly exalted, by bringing down the Head of the World to the earth, *viz.* The French King, that aspires at least to be the Head of the World, and indeed who has but too long stood fair for being so. The only thing that hitherto appears most mystical through the whole Prophecy is, ['Battles for the 'Faith] as if thereby were intimated some *Religious War*, which indeed is not the present Case of *Europe*. But what [*pro fide*] the words in the Original should amount to [*pro fide Christiana*] is going beyond the Text; and truly to make this finishing part all of a piece with the foregoing Discourse, we have all imaginable reason to construct the word *Fidei* more inclining to *Fidelity*, in opposition to the Infidelity of *France*. And so the construction will run thus; *Viz.* That these many great Battles in this great Fourth Year, shall be fought in the Cause of Righteousness, Honour, Justice and Truth, by the Confederacy, for Recovery of so many Towns, Provinces, Principalities and Kingdoms, torn from 'em by the *Rapine* and *Violence* of the French King, or rather by his Treachery and Gold. This being the true [*pro fide*] for which this just War is waged against that great *Infidel* of the World, so notoriously guilty of all manner of Breach of *Faith*, *Leagues*, *Covenants*, nay *Oaths* themselves. ['And 'there shall be Universal Peace over all the World.] Undoubtedly the subduing of *France* must soon settle the whole World in Peace, and Plenty accordingly follow. (And the Son of Man shall receive a marvelous sign and shall go into the Land of the Cross.) What this wonderful Sign shall be we must expect from Time, that part of the Prediction being above the Reach of Foresight and Conjecture; nor can we dive so far as to assign any particular Interpretation to that last part, *his going into the Land of the Cross*, unless we may for once adventure to give this meaning to the Close of the Prophecy, *viz.* That this our *Great Son of man* shall finish his Race of Glory, by acquiring a yet brighter Crown; that is, from the Hand of the *Greater Son of Man*, when at the last Trophy and Reward of Vertue and Honour, he shall be received into the Land of the Glorified Sufferer on the Cross, the Kingdom of Bless.

Thus far our English Prophecy. And now let us hear something from the Propher of their own, the famous *Nostradamus*, the great Favourite of three French Kings, *Henry* the 2d, *Francis* the 2d, and *Charles* the 9th,

Celuy qui la Principaute
Tiendra par grande cruauté
Au fin, verra grand Phalange
Par Coup defeu tres dangereux,
Par accord pourroit fair mieux,
Autrement tuera sue D' Orenge.

In ENGLISH.

He we who ſhall with great Cruelty hold the Principality, in the Concluſion ſhall ſee a great Army ruined by a moſt dangerous Fire-blow. he might do better to make an Accord, otherways he ſhall drink the juice of Orange.

Here is firſt, a plain Deſcription of the *French* Dominion, which is certainly carryed on by the greateſt Cruelty and Oppreſſion wherever their Arms have made a Conqueſt; ſo great are the Deſolations of *Germany*, eſpecially *Alſace*, and all that pleaſant, populous and fertile Countrey along the *Rhine*, that there is ſcarce an Inhabitant or a Village left for many Leagues together, to make complaint of the barbarous Inhumanity of the *French* Armies, who have left behind 'em unexampled Inſtances of their Cruelty in ſuch unprecedented Spoils and Ravage.

(*And he ſhall ſee his Army ruined by the moſt dangerous blow of Fire.*) Not improbable, Heaven often meaſures by the *Lex talionis*. *Fire ſhall deſtroy thoſe who have deſtroyed ſo many innocent Millions by Fire.* But by this Fire he ſeems to intimat the Force of Powder, the now common and terrible Fuel of the horrid Engines of War. (*He might do better to make an Accord*) Certainly this would be wholeſom Counſel for *France*, if the Ambition of the Great *Lewis* would reſound ſome part of his ill-gotten Victories to purchaſe that Peace, which indeed is not agreeing with his Kidney. (*Otherways he ſhall drink the Juice of Orange.*) By this Juice of *Orange* muſt be meant, The Arms of our Illuſtrious Monarch, for want of which Accord, not made, nor now like to be, he ſhall feel the Force and Power of that Victorious Hero deſigned for Greatneſs and Wonders.

I ſhall only add one more of the Prophecies of *Noſtradamus*,

Le grand D' Hongrie ira dans la Nacelle
Le Noveau ne fera guerre nouvelle,
A ſon voiſin qu'il tiendra aſſiegé,
Et le Noire au avec ſon Alteſſe,
Ne ſouffrira que par trop on le preſſe
Durant Trois ans ſes Gens tiendra rangé.

In ENGLISH.

The great one of Hungary *ſhall go to the Boat, the new one ſhall not make a new War againſt his Neighbour, whom he ſhall beſiege on every ſide. And the black one with his Highneſs, ſhall not ſuffer him to be over preſſed. During three Years he ſhall keep his People in order.*

By *the Great one of* Hungary is meant the Emperour, *Hungary* being his Hereditary

ditary Kingdom. [*Great one*] makes it this preſent Emperour, all his Imperial
deceſſors from *Noſtradamus*'s Time being ſo far from *Great* in *Hungary*, that the w
Kingdom till this laſt Reign was all in the hands of Infidels, a Province of the Tu
Empire. By *his going into the boat* is meant, his Embarquing in the *Confederation*.
the new one is meant, a new King of *France*, that is, ſuch a one as *France* never had
fore. *He ſhall not make a new war with his Neighbour*, that is, it ſhall not be a
War, but the old Game play'd out; his continued Ambition of acquiring the Uni
ſal Empire of *Europe*; his ſhort Ceſſation of Arms in King *Charles* the Second's Re
and the few Conqueſts, he than gave up, being ſo far from any intended Peace
the Empire, or any other of the Allies, that on the contrary, 'twas only a Bli
lull his Neighbours for ſome little time aſleep, till he could get better opportu
and more ſtrength to cut their Throats. The feeble *Nimiguen* Treaty, and all the
truded Mediatorſhip of King *Charles* (pardon the *Epithete*, for though a *bold* one,
a true one) being only that politick *Cobweb* law, made on purpoſe to break thro
His Neighbour, whom he ſhall beſiege on every ſide, is the Emperour, whom he does
only invade on one ſide, but is likewiſe the grand *Aſſaulter* (if not the *original* I
brand) of the preſent Turkiſh Wars that ſtraque the Emperour on the other
And the black one with his Highneſs, ſhall not ſuffer him to be overpreſs'd: that is,
Spaniard, with his Highneſs the *Prince* of *Orange*, ſhall take the Emperour's part,
make ſome Check to the Progreſs of *France*; for *The black one* muſt mean *Spain*, the
plithete of *Black* being the vulgar Characteriſtick of the *Spaniard*, and *His High*
muſt mean His preſent Majeſty, more properly called *His Highneſs* in the Prophecy
the young *Hannibal* againſt *Rome*, being an early *ſworn* Foe to *France*: and though
ſo Potent a one, yet no leſs Zealous a Champion of the Confederacy, when only *Pr*
of *Orange*,

[*During* Three *Years he ſhall keep his People in order*] Here the *Engliſh* and *Fre*
Prophet jump, for here we come to the old Prediction of this approaching 98, the
mous *Fourth Year* of His Majeſty's Reign before mentioned. During *three Years* of
Sovereigns Reign *France* ſhall hold up his Head againſt his Enemies, and make h
ſhift to keep Peace at home. But this great *Fourth Year* let him look for Domeſ
Inſurrections and Rebellions from a People overladen with the intolerable Burthe
ſo long a War; and feel the Weight of the impending Blow that hang over him; wh
Execution perhaps the Juſtice of Providence has thus long retarded, to fall at laſt m
home and more heavy. When both the *Eagle* and the *Son of man* ſhall be exalted,
the *Lilly* meet the Fate he has deſerved.

I hope I have here given the Reader a very rational and natural Conſtruction
theſe ſeveral Prophecies. I ſhall only add one Remark. That theſe Prophecies w
ſome others printed about 15 Years ſince, it was endeavoured there to make the g
Hero foretold of, to do ſuch Wonders againſt *France*; (*viz.* the *Black one* in this P
phecy, and the *Son of man* in the other) to be meant *King Charles the ſecond*. A v
odd ſort of an Interpretation, to make that unfortunate, if not infatuated Prince,
foredoom'd Scourge of *France*, when his Inclinations lay ſo clearly the contrary way
Prince ſo ſtrangely riveted and tyed to the *French* Intereſt, that both the old E
gliſh Honour and the Safety of his People were daily leſſen'd by the exorbitant Gro
of *France*. (The beſt Favour *England* could expect from ſo inſatiate an Ambition, co
laſt devoured by this hungry *Polyphemus*.) The Obligation of Truſt lodged in him
Arbiter of Europe, nor the Common Juſtice of aiding the injur'd Side, the *Confederat*
in ſhort, neither, theſe, nor any other Conſiderations, were of Force to wean h
from his extravagant Doting and Fondneſs to *France*; but rather to ſend him all Hal
the ſtrengthning that *Horſe*, whoſe Foot, if he would have remembred, had be
(*viz.* in his *Exile*) not over-kindly ſpurned him out of Doors.

FIN S.